

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a non-linear output stream from a linear feedback shift register (LFSR), comprising:

shifting a plurality of bits through the LFSR, wherein the LFSR is structured in accordance with a recurrence relation;

performing modular multiplications upon the plurality of bits, wherein the modular multiplications are implemented through pre-computed look-up tables, wherein the pre-computed look-up tables are computed using an irreducible polynomial; and

performing a non-linear operation on a selected portion of the shifted plurality of bits, wherein the selected portion is selected so that ~~[[the]]~~ pairwise distances between elements in the selected portion are distinct values.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the non-linear operation is defined as $V_n = (S_n + S_{n+5}) \times (S_{n+2} + S_{n+12})$, where the non-linear operation is defined over $GF(2^8)$.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the non-linear operation is a stuttering operation.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of initializing the LFSR before shifting the plurality of bits, wherein initializing the LFSR comprises:

adding a byte of a secret key to an element in the LFSR; and

adding a byte of a secondary key to the LFSR for each frame of data that passes through the LFSR.